accounts in short (crm deposits lor 46 days in accordance with the instructions provided by this Ministry, Detailed guidelines are under linalisalion and shall he published in the scheme tor establishing and maintaining Ihe Environment Relief Fund.

(b) and (c)Thc news report has highlighted die following issues;

(i) stagnation of Ks. 2.1 crores of linvironinent Relief Fund with insurance companies in absence of guidelines;

(ii) absence of instructions for investing the fund; and

liii) non-compliance by Public Sector Units.

Regarding issues (i) & (ii) according to the available statistics, so far the contribution forwards EiRF is Rs. 18 crore. The money is being reinvested regularly in short-term deposits and has earned a sum of Rs. 2.11 crores as interest. Detailed modalities to reinvest the fund have been incorporated in Ihe scheme, under preparation, for establishment of FRF.

(iiv) So far, except for one case, none of the Public Sector Units have sought exemption under Ihe Act. A lew Public Sector Units have already taken out an insurance policy. Necessary instructions to the Stale Governments, who have been delegated with powers to give appropriate directions, have been issued to ensure compliance by Public Sector Units.

(d) The use of the Environment Relief Fund is restricted for meeting any claims beyond Ihe liability of the insurer under the Public Liability Insurance Act, and cannot be diverted to development purposes.

Catering/Vending etc. Stalls at Railway Stations

1539. SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI; Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the contractors holding Ihe catering/vending, book stalls, miscellaneous Article Stalls and fresh juice stalls in Northern Railway (Station and division-wise);'

(b) Ihe dales of allotment and execution of the agreements in each case as mentioned in part la) above;

(e) the details with names of ihe contractors whose period of agreement expired and nol renewed within the stipulated period in each division of Northern Railway; and

(d) the details thereof?

II Hi MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFFR SHARIEF): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will he laid on Ihe Table of Ihe Sabha.

Fruit Plants on forest land

1540. SI IRI BHUPINDER SINGII MANN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to stale;

(a) whether Government envisage the idea ol growing fruit-plants on the forest land which is nol only helpful in fruit production but also ecu-friendly;

(h) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether such forest land would be given on lease, if required'.'

Till'. MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) The principal aim of the national Forest Policy I'MH is to ensure environmental stability and maintenance of ecological balance through afforestation, Accordingly, such suitable fruit trees as would III in with the overall scheme of afforestation may be planted on forest lands. It is nol, however, proposed to lease I'oresi lands for horticultural purposes.

Projects under Implementation In Paradlp Port

1541. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased lo stale:

(a) what are Ihe important Projects under Implementation in Paradip Port (Orissa); and

(b) the details thereof?

TUB MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) The